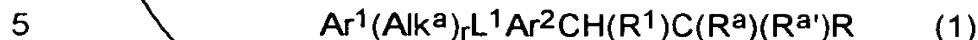


CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (1):



wherein

Ar^1 is an optionally substituted aromatic or heteroaromatic group;

L^1 is a covalent bond or a linker atom or group selected from
 10 $-\text{CON}(\text{R}^2)-$ [where R^2 is a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-3} alkyl group],
 $-\text{SO}_2\text{N}(\text{R}^2)-$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{O}-$, $-\text{N}(\text{R}^2)-$ or $-\text{O}-$;

Ar^2 is an optionally substituted phenylene or nitrogen-containing six-membered heteroarylene group;

R^1 is a group selected from $-\text{NHCOR}^3$ [where R^3 is an optionally substituted aliphatic, heteroaliphatic, cycloaliphatic, polycycloaliphatic, heterocycloaliphatic, heteropolycycloaliphatic, aromatic or heteroaromatic group], $-\text{NHSO}_2\text{R}^3$, $-\text{NHR}^3$, $-\text{NHC}(\text{O})\text{OR}^3$, $-\text{NHCSR}^3$, $-\text{NHCON}(\text{R}^3)(\text{R}^{3a})$ [where R^{3a} is a hydrogen atom or a group R^3 and R^3 and R^{3a} are the same or different], $-\text{NHSO}_2\text{N}(\text{R}^3)(\text{R}^{3a})$, $-\text{NHCSN}(\text{R}^3)(\text{R}^{3a})$, $-\text{CON}(\text{R}^3)(\text{R}^{3a})$ or $-\text{CSN}(\text{R}^3)(\text{R}^{3a})$;

20 R^a and $\text{R}^{a'}$ which may be the same or different is each independently selected from a hydrogen or halogen atom or an optionally substituted straight or branched alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl, haloalkyl, alkoxy, haloalkoxy, alkylthio, or $-(\text{Alk}^b)_m\text{R}^b$ group (in which Alk^b is a C_{1-3} alkylene chain, m is zero or the integer 1 and R^b is a $-\text{OH}$, $-\text{SH}$, $-\text{NO}_2$, $-\text{CN}$, $-\text{CO}_2\text{H}$, $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}^c$, (where R^c is an optionally substituted straight or branched C_{1-6} alkyl group), $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, $-\text{SOR}^c$, $-\text{SO}_2\text{R}^c$, $-\text{SO}_3\text{R}^c$, $-\text{OCO}_2\text{R}^c$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{H}$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^c$, $-\text{OC}(\text{O})\text{R}^c$, $-\text{C}(\text{S})\text{R}^c$, $-\text{NR}^d\text{R}^e$ [where R^d and R^e which may be the same or different is each a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted straight or branched alkyl group], $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{N}(\text{R}^d)(\text{R}^e)$, $-\text{OC}(\text{O})\text{N}(\text{R}^d)(\text{R}^e)$, $-\text{N}(\text{R}^d)\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^e$, $-\text{CSN}(\text{R}^d)(\text{R}^e)$, $-\text{N}(\text{R}^d)\text{C}(\text{S})\text{R}^e$, $-\text{SO}_2\text{N}(\text{R}^d)(\text{R}^e)$, $-\text{N}(\text{R}^d)\text{SO}_2\text{R}^e$, $-\text{N}(\text{R}^d)\text{CON}(\text{R}^e)(\text{R}^f)$ [where R^f is a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted straight or branched alkyl group], $-\text{N}(\text{R}^d)\text{C}(\text{S})\text{N}(\text{R}^e)(\text{R}^f)$ or $-\text{N}(\text{R}^d)\text{SO}_2\text{N}(\text{R}^e)(\text{R}^f)$ group).

35 Alk^a is an optionally substituted aliphatic or heteroaliphatic chain;

~~r is zero or the integer 1;
 R is a carboxylic acid (-CO₂H) or a derivative thereof;
 and the salts, solvates, hydrates and N-oxides thereof.~~

2. A compound according to Claim 1 in which R is a -CO₂H group.
3. A compound according to Claim 1 in which R^a is a hydrogen atom.
4. A compound according to Claim 1 in which R^a is a hydrogen atom or a hydroxyl group.
5. A compound according to Claim 1 in which (Alk^a)_rL¹ is a -CON(R²)-group.
6. A compound according to Claim 5 in which (Alk^a)_rL¹ is a -CONH-group.
7. A compound according to Claim 1 in which Ar² is an optionally substituted 1,4-phenylene group.
8. A compound according to Claim 7 in which Ar² is a 1,4-phenylene group.
9. A compound according to Claim 1 in which Ar¹ is an optionally substituted pyrimidinyl, pyridyl or phenyl group.
10. A compound according to Claim 9 in which Ar¹ is an optionally substituted pyridyl or phenyl group.
11. A compound according to Claim 10 in which Ar¹ is a 3,5-dichloropyridin-4-yl group.
12. A compound according to Claim 1 in which R¹ is the group -NHCOR³ or -NHR³.

13. A compound according to Claim 12 in which R³ is an optionally substituted pyrrolidinyl, thiazolidinyl, phenyl, pyrimidinyl or 1,3,5-triazinyl group.

14. A compound which is:

3-{4-[(3,5-Dichloroisonicotinoyl)amino]phenyl}-3-[(4-[2-hydroxyethyl-amino]-6-methoxy-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl)amino]propanoic acid;

3-[(3,5-Dichloroisonicotinoyl)amino]-3-{4-[(3,5-dichloroisonicotinoyl)-amino]phenyl}propanoic acid;

3-{4-[(3,5-Dichloroisonicotinoyl)amino]phenyl}-3-[(2,6-dimethoxybenzoyl)amino]propanoic acid;

3-[[[(4S)-3-Acetyl-1,3-thiazolidin-4-yl]carbonyl]amino]-3-{4-[(3,5-dichloroisonicotinoyl)amino]phenyl}propanoic acid;

3-{4-[(3,5-Dichloroisonicotinoyl)amino]phenyl}-3-[[[(2S)-1-[(3,5-dichlorophenyl)sulphonyl]tetrahydro-1H-pyrrol-2-yl]carbonyl]amino]propanoic acid;

(2RS,3RS)-3-{4-[(3,5-Dichloroisonicotinoyl)amino]phenyl}-3-[[[(2S)-1-[(3,5-dichlorophenyl)sulphonyl]tetrahydro-1H-pyrrol-2-yl]carbonyl]amino]-2-hydroxypropanoic acid;

3-{4-[(3,5-Dichloroisonicotinoyl)amino]phenyl}-3-[(2-[(2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)thio]-3-pyridinyl)carbonyl]amino]propanoic acid; and the salts, solvates, hydrates and N-oxides thereof

15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 14 together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, excipients or diluents.